Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 8 with the following amend paragraph.

Once an account is established with MIRS, the user may ~~directs~~ direct that providers of goods send merchandise purchased over the phone or Internet ~~be sent~~ to his or her mailbox account with the MIRS. Providers ~~and other providers~~ of goods and services may also interact with the MIRS provider.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 8 with the following amended paragraph.

Turning now to Figure 3, shown is a flowchart of using the MIRS, which is an embodiment of the present invention. In step 10, a user receives notification of a package's arrival at the MIRS facility. Such a notification could occur via voicemail, electronic mail, a cell phone, a pager or a PDA. The notification will include an attachment for printing an appropriate receipt. In step 20, the user at his or her convenience retrieves the information about the package received and in particular ~~obtain~~ obtains a printed copy of a receipt including such information. The receipt will include a two-dimensional bar code, such as a PDF, which will incorporate information provided by the user to identify himself or herself previously to the system.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9 with the following amended paragraph.

Returning to Figure 3, in step 30, the user brings the printed receipt to ~~of~~ the location of the package, at this location the user then ~~it~~ provides the required biometric data to the package provider. For example, the user may affix his or her signature on the printed receipt just prior to

arriving at the package retrieval facility. As show in step 40, at the package retrieval facility which may be at a post office or other central location or even ~~an~~ the user's home, the user has the MIRS scan the two-dimensional bar code and also provides the necessary biometric data to the retrieval system. The act of providing such data may be accomplished by signing the receipt in the space indicated and having the MIRS scan the signature or by providing a retinal scan, handprint, finger print or voice print to the MIRS. Alternatively, the MIRS could us a camera to scan the facial features of the user and compare the biometric data retrieved from the scan with the biometric data retrieved from scanning the two-dimensional bar code.

Please replace the first paragraph on page 10 with the following amended paragraph.

In step 50, the MIRS compares the previously obtained biometric data encoded in ~~and~~ the two-dimensional bar code with the currently obtained ~~data~~ biometric data provided by the user. If the two sets of data match, the retrieval system ~~than~~ then provides the package to the user. As shown in step 60, the retrieval system may present the user with the package in order for the user to confirm that that is the actual package that is desired. In a further embodiment, the MIRS can arrange that the provider of the goods only charge the user's credit card once the user has actually retrieved the package. This can be accomplished without having the MIRS reveal the user's financial information to the provider.

Please replace the third full paragraph beginning on page 12 and extending to page 13 with the following amended paragraph.

Similar to the acquisition process, the user brings the printed receipt to the MIRS. At this location the user then ~~it~~ provides the required biometric data to the MIRS. For example, the user

may affix his or her signature on the printed receipt just prior to arriving at the package retrieval facility. At the package deposit facility which may be at a post office or other central location or even ~~an~~ at the user's home, the user scans the two-dimensional bar code and also provides the necessary biometric data to the retrieval system. The act of providing such data may be accomplished by signing the receipt in the space indicated and scanning the signature or by providing a retinal scan or handprint, fingerprint, voice print to the MIRS. Alternatively, the MIRS could use a camera to scan the facial features of the user and compare the biometric data retrieved from that scan with the biometric data retrieved from scanning the two-dimensional bar code. The user may then deposit the package in the MIRS in a secure manner.